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**PATENT****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

<b>In re Application of:</b>	<b>Brian J. Brown, Michael Davis, David Friesen, Timothy J. Ley and Sean P. Skubitz</b>
<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>09/197278</b>
<b>Filed:</b>	<b>November 20, 1998</b>
<b>For:</b>	<b>Improved Longitudinally Flexible Expandable Stent</b>
<b>Examiner:</b>	<b>Vy Q. Bui</b>
<b>Group Art Unit:</b>	<b>3731</b>

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Docket No.: S63.2B-6769-US01****AMENDMENT**

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated **June 1, 2004**.

If an extension of time is required to make this response timely and no separate petition is enclosed, Applicant hereby petitions for an extension of time sufficient to make the response timely. In the event that this response requires the payment of government fees and payment is not enclosed, please charge Deposit Account No. 22-0350.

Please amend the application as follows:

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